

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 1, 17 and 20 have been amended. Claim 9 has been cancelled.

Claims 7, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 US 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The Examiner states that claim 7 is indefinite for failing to define what "S" is. Applicant notes that "S" is a universally accepted abbreviation for the element sulfur. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the present rejection be withdrawn. The Examiner states that claims 17 and 20 are indefinite for using the phrase "becomes minimum density plus 0.5." In response, Applicant has amended claims 17 and 20 to clarify that the minimum density is actually "fog." Support for the present amendment is found on 210 of the present Specification.

All claims are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over various references. From the outset, please note that Applicant has submitted herewith a certified copy the Applicant's Japanese priority document, which was filed with the JPO on December 19, 2002. Accordingly, the EP '825 reference is no longer available as prior art against the present patent application.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 9. That is, amended claim 1 now requires that the photosensitive silver halide has an iodide content of 70 mol% to 100 mol%. It is noted that none of the available cited prior art references discloses an iodide content of 70 mol% to 100 mol%.

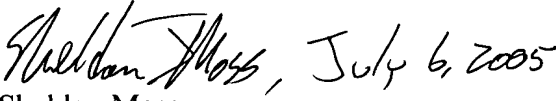
It is noted that all pending claims in the present application ultimately depend from claim 1. In light of the fact that none of the available cited prior art references

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discloses an iodide content of 70 mol% to 100 mol%, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending 35 USC 103(a) rejections have been overcome.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that all of the pending claims in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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